

Bullets

New Assistant Adjutant General for Air Announced



Brig. Gen. Thomas G. Cutler has been named the next assistant adjutant general for the Michigan Air National Guard. Cutler, who is currently the 127th Wing commander at Selfridge Air National Guard Base, will replace Brig. Gen. Ronald L. Seely, upon his retirement this Fall.

Correction

For Guard members interested in the Michigan National Guard Biathlon Team, the correct e-mail address for 1st Lt. Karl Granroth is karl@granroth.org. Potential biatheletes may also contact Sgt. Maj. Dave Weigel at 517-483-5602.

TAPS

Sgt. 1st Class Carl Ballard (ret), 73, Apr. 19, 2002 Staff Sgt. Ronald L. Nichols, 59, Apr. 2, 2002 Chief Warrant Officer Ardon Ackles (ret), 83, May 17, 2002 Spc. Michael D. Reid, 36, May 20, 2002 Master Sgt. Robert Beck (ret), 73, May 28, 2002 1st Sgt. Nathan A. Bennett (ret), 59, May 29, 2002 Chief Warrant Officer 3 John L. Della Pia (ret), 77, June 3, 2002 1st Sgt. Philip H. Hatfield (ret), 64, June 5, 2002 Sgt. Lee D. Stewart (ret), 72, June 10, 2002 1st Sgt. John J. Enright, 84, June 20, 2002 Sgt. 1st Class Jeffrey D. Steward, 49, June 25, 2002

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New Key Leaders

Col. John Leatherman--38th Infantry Division, Asst. Div. Cmdr.

Col. William Ewald--46th Infantry Brigade Commander

Col. Donald Pipes--Provost Marshall

Col. Roger F. Seidel--110th Fighter Wing Commander

Col. Gary Wainwright--63rd Troop Command Brigade Cmdr.

Lt. Col. Daniel Fleming--110th Medical Squadron

Lt. Col. Stephen Houseal--1st Battalion, 126th Armor Bn. Cmdr.

Lt. Col. John Leask--Military Liaison Team Chief in Latvia

Maj. Jerome Hurtgen, Jr.--State Safety Officer

Maj. Scott Stokes--Counter Drug Coordinator

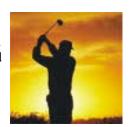
Chief Warrant Officer Rhea Pruett--Cmd. Chief Warrant Officer

Fly your flag at half-staff

President George W. Bush signed legislation that designates Sept. 11 as Patriot Day in honor of those killed during the terrorist attacks. On Patriot Day, flags should be flown at half-staff.

Get in one more golf game

The 10th Annual NCO Fall Classic will be held Thursday, Sept. 5, at Highland Hills Golf Course, DeWitt, Mich. The "two-person best ball" event costs \$120 and includes a New York strip steak dinner, 18 holes of golf and a



cart. Proceeds will go to the "VFW National Home for Children." For more information and a registration form, call Sgt. Maj. Dave Weigel at 517-483-5602.

Deployed Technician News

After more than a year of review, Congress has voted in favor of covering Federal employees health benefits, for up to one year, when military technicians are deployed. This allows technicians to maintain normal coverage for their families. This benefit is retroactive to 1995.

President's Ball and Scholarship Awards Dinner

Join the 1279th Combat Engineers' Alumni Association at the 10th Annual President's Ball and Scholarship Awards Dinner, Saturday, Oct. 19, 6 p.m., in the Southfield Ramada Inn Grand Ballroom. The "black tie optional" event includes free valet parking and an open bar. A \$40 donation will get you through the door. For more information, call Curtis Browder at 313-867-1562.

Warrant Officer Opportunity

Soldiers interested in becoming a warrant officer are encouraged to attend a presentation about the Warrant Officer Program on Tuesday, Aug. 13, 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m., at the Camp Grayling Officer's



Club. Attendees will also have an opportunity to meet with recent graduates of the Warrant Officer Candidate School.

Annual Warrant Officer Meeting

The Annual Warrant Officer Meeting will be held Tuesday, Aug. 13, 6 p.m. at the Camp Grayling Officer's Club. All current and retired warrant officers are invited to attend. A grill-your-own steak or chicken dinner is available for \$12. Civilian attire. Please RSVP with Warrant Officer Joe Floriano at 906-485-4645 or e-mail him at joseph.floriano@mi.ngb.army.mil.

* * TAG TALK * *

Tuition assistance programs for Guard members continue to grow

Still need an incentive to get that college or advanced degree? How does a million dollars sound?

Recent Census Bureau reports estimate that a worker with a college degree earns a million dollars more than their high school counterparts, over a typical career. The higher the degree, the higher the earnings.

To take advantage of the rewards earned with a degree, members of the Michigan National Guard now have more tuition assistance opportunities than ever before.

On July 25, Lawrence Technological University in Southfield, Mich., became our 18th partner college, to offer tuition grants to Guard members. LTU's

welcome addition to our family of higher learning institutions puts another unique and esteemed degree opportunity within financial reach of all our soldiers and airmen.

With all the tuition assistance programs currently available to members of the Michigan National Guard, it's not uncommon for our members to go to college tuition free, with money to spare, for books, registration fees, room and board and miscellaneous expenses.

Hundreds of Michigan National Guard soldiers and airmen have customized tuition assistance packages, from the multitude of available programs, with exceptional results.

Senior Airman Deborah MacMillan, 127th Logistics Squadron is working towards a bachelor's degree from Oakland University and has tuition assistance money left over for books, while Sgt. 1st Class Arthur Jones, Headquarters, STARC, is finishing his bachelor's degree at Davenport, with his tuition fully

paid.

In addition to the state, federal and university grant programs available to members of the Michigan National



Guard, several specialized tuition grant programs might also be of interest to help defray college costs.

The National Guard Association of Michigan also has a scholarship program for its members. The Troops to Teachers program, in Michigan, provides annual scholarships up to \$5,000 for eligible Guard members who become certified to teach and commit to a three year contract in a "high-need" district. Distance learning and on-line tuition programs literally bring 'degree' opportunities to your front door.

For help and more information on these tuition assistance programs and others, you can contact the State Education Office at (517) 483-5875; the Army Guard Education Office at 517-702-5158; Michigan Troops to Teachers toll free at 866-801-0007; NGAM at 517-484-4600; Base Retention Office Managers; or our web-site at www.michigan.gov/dmva.

So, what are you waiting for? There's still time to get enrolled in Fall classes and take advantage of all the tuition benefits the Guard has to offer. You have a great opportunity to turn these benefits into real rewards. The educational investment you make in yourself today, can yield big dividends, at least a million of them, in your future tomorrow.

C. Llandow Llung The Adjutant General of Michigan

Those Who Served

Information for Retired Guardsman

Quick! What month, day and year did you retire? What is the address, including zip code, of your last unit? Now ask your spouse whether you served in a company, battalion, group or squadron? Does your spouse know if you have VGLI and if so, where's the paperwork?

For most people, after they leave an organization about the only thing they

recall, off the top of their head, is the good times. So, when the time comes to check up on retirement benefits, it may be hard to recall the information needed. To keep the details organized, use the following check list and tell your spouse or primary beneficiary where the list is. That way the paperwork shuffle will be a little easier for them upon your death.

| <u> </u> | |
|---|-------------------------------|
| I retired on (month/day/year) | _ from (unit, battery, group, |
| squadron, etc.), | |
| located at (full address) | |
| My social security number is I served on [(regular) active duty (not counting Guard or Reserve activated service) in the: | |
| ArmyAir Force Navy | Marine Corps |
| Coast Guard I never s | erved on regular active duty. |
| When I retired from the Army/Air National Guard I: | |
| Did Did not elect transfer to the Retired Reserve. | |
| Did Did not choose concurrent separation from the Army-Air National Guard and as a Reserve of the Army-Air Force. | |
| Did Did not make a previous election for the Survivor Benefit Plan (a decision made upon receipt of a 20 year letter). | |
| Did Did not convert Servicemen's Group Life Insurance (SGLI) to Veterans Group Life Insurance (VGLI). | |
| My date of birth is I was ag | e when I retired. |
| I retired at the rank and pay grade of I have placed | |
| my personal documents (location) | |
| In the event of my death call the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs (Michigan Army and Air National Guard Personnel Office) at 517-483-5500. | |
| In addition, on a separate sheet of paper, list insurance policies, stocks, bonds, etc., and any organization you are receiving or are due to receive retirement pay from. Include account number, address and phone numbers. | |

This checklist can also be found in the "Handbook for Military Retirees" (chapter 2). The handbook can be found online at www.michigan.gov/DMVA under Veterans Affairs, Military Retirement or for a print copy, call Ken Baldwin, state military retirement program administrator at 517-483-5692.

THE WOLVERINE

GUARD

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Before going on duty, Spc. Mathew Kaufman is inspected by Sgt. 1st Class Michael Lucas. Both soldiers are members of the 1776th Military Police Company, serving a one year tour in Washington D.C. See story on pages 14-15. (Cover photo by Sgt. Ron Raflik)

Best of the Year

AGR NCO of the Year

After capturing the state level AGR NCO of the Year title. Staff Sgt. Mark T. Kraus, Detachment 1, Battery A, 1st Battalion, 119th Field Artillery, competed at the regional level where he earned second place. The competition, which includes soldiers from Michigan, Pennsylvania, Ohio,



Indiana, Wisconsin and Minnesota, consists of a board appearance in dress greens; common task testing in BDUs, LBE and kevlar; and an Army physical fitness test.

Combat Shooter of the Year

The best combat shooters in the Army and Air National Guard from 40 states and territories competed for championship honors during the 31st Annual Winston P. Wilson Rifle, Pistol, Sniper and Light Machine Gun Championship Matches at Camp Robinson, Ark.

More than 500 competitors vied for the distinction of "Best of the Best" in four categories.

Michigan snipers Staff Sgt. Norman Plaat and Sgt. 1st Class Robert Roe, both with Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 126th Armor, led the Michigan Guard team with a second place finish in the overall sniper team aggregate. In addition, as a new shooter, Roe took first place honors in the sniper novice class.



Sgt. 1st Class Robert Roe



The matches are designed to promote marksmanship by providing high level training and competition among states. Particular emphasis is devoted to improving individual battle focused "move and shoot" combat marksmanship skills.

Family of the Year

In April, during the Family Conference, the Michigan Army and Air National Guard Families of the Year were announced.

The 2002 Army Family of the Year Award recipients are Carol Owens and Deb Merritt, family support coordinators for 1st Battalion, 238th Aviation, Grand Ledge, Mich.

On drill weekends, Carol, the mother of Spc. Della Owens and Deb, the wife of Sgt. Jim Merritt, prepare a continental breakfast for unit members, which is a big hit with the troops and a money maker for the family program.

During last Fall's Border Security Mobilization briefings, Deb shared her personal experience about holding down the home front in 1994, while her husband was deployed to Haiti. She then offered her home phone number for family members to call if they need assistance or have a question.





Carol Owens

Deb and Carol are also instrumental in the annual Summer picnic and Christmas dinner. In 2001, more than 450 people attended the holiday event.

This year's Air Guard Family of the Year is obviously doing something right and apparently doing it better than anyone else. The 127th Wing Family Support Group, headed by

Family Program Manager Pam Harrison, has taken this award home for three years in a row. Their efforts throughout the

year continue to be characterized by unmatched enthusiasm and energy. Within two hours of the



Pam Harrison

September 11 terrorist attack, the 127th's Family Support Office was on duty supporting a wartime Air Force. In the months since the attack, the group has made family counseling referrals; provided financial counseling and assistance; notarized more than 40 forms; developed and conducted Family Support briefings; and initiated discussion groups to calm the fears of local junior and senior high school students frightened by the attacks.

Challenged by the large-scale participation of the 127th in Homeland Defense, Operations Noble Eagle and Enduring Freedom, and the Aerospace Expeditionary Force, a Family in Waiting Program was started. The families that participate receive phone calls from the family support group to keep personal and regular links between families and the wing.



Family tradition: a bone marrow donor honors her father's legacy

By Master Sgt. Tom Springer State Public Affairs Office

In Washington, D.C., a 55-year-old man is dying of pancreatic cancer.

At a hospital somewhere in the United States, an 8-year-old boy suffers from a life-threatening case of leukemia.

Staff Sgt. Dorothy Sells, a healthy, 35 year-old Michigan Army Guard recruiter, is the lifeline that connects the two. It's her father, Rocky Hayward, who is terminally ill. And it's the little boy – she doesn't even know his name– who she hopes to save with a donation of bone marrow.

"My dad taught me a lot about kindness and generosity," Sells said. "He's dying now, and only has a few more weeks to live. I can't help him, but I can make him proud of me by helping someone else."

For Sells, the saga began during last year's Cinco de Mayo celebration in Holland, where she donated a small sample of blood and joined the National Marrow Donor Registry (NMDP). In doing so, Sells became one of the 4.7 million Americans whose names and blood types are stored in the registry's database. The

NMDP uses this information to coordinate marrow transplants for patients who cannot find matching donors in their own families.

Depending on a person's genetic makeup, the odds of finding a match through the registry can be as high as one in a million. In Sells' case, it was a little boy who hit the jackpot. The week before Thanksgiving, Sells was notified that her bone marrow type could help a sick youngster that was in desperate need of treatment. After undergoing another blood test, Sells reported on Jan. 31 to Butterworth Hospital in Grand Rapids for marrow removal surgery.

"The doctor told me the boy would have a 50 percent chance of survival once he got my bone marrow. I said 'That's a little low, isn't it? And the doctor said 'Dorothy, right now this child has a zero percent chance of survival."

To extract the marrow, surgeons inserted a special needle into the back of her pelvic bone. This usually requires them to make two to four small holes about the diameter of a pencil lead. But in Sells' case, because "her bones were a little stubborn," the procedure required 16 tries.

"When they got done, my back side looked like a connect-the-dots puzzle," she said. "But I knew this was the kid's last hope, so no matter how painful it was, I had to do it."

Sells, a single mother with three boys of her own, has not met the child who received her marrow. To prevent undue emotional stress, the NMDP requires donors and patients to wait a year before making personal contact.

"When I first told my boys I was a match, they were excited," Sells said. "There are two girls in their class who had leukemia. We just went to one of their funerals two weeks ago."

Regardless of the outcome, Sells believes it's important to face tragic circumstances with hope and faith. It's a lesson she learned during the past year, while watching her father struggle with pancreatic cancer.

"It was my Dad who instilled in me the willingness to help people when they're in trouble," Sells said. "And now there's a part of my Dad that's being passed along. So this is really a gift from my Dad to this little boy."

Editor's Note: Walter (Rocky) J. Hayward passed away on March 24. Near the end, he told his daughter that he "would keep an eye on the little fellow that received her donation."



Since March...

"My bone marrow counselor, Barbara, has been a wonderful blessing to me. The last information she received was that the little boy is doing well and that he received 100 percent of my bone marrow. I don't know who the little boy is...although I've given him a nickname...he's known in my house as Little Rocky, the fighter."

Staff Sgt. Dorothy Sells

They still know his name

A conference room and an award named Cieciek

Compiled by Chief Master Sgt. Keith Edwards 127th Wing, Selfridge Air National Guard Base

Chief Master Sgt. William A. Cieciek retired from the Michigan Air National Guard nearly two decades ago but, today, enlisted members still know his name.

They know his name because a conference room and a state award have been named after him—tribute to 40 years that Cieciek worked for enlisted members to ensure their voices were heard.

In 1945, when troops were returning from Europe and World War II was drawing to a close, Cieciek joined the Army as an infantry rifleman. He was soon transferred to the Army Air Corps and then eventually to the Air Force Reserve. Next, as the Korean War escalated, he joined the Air Force. He stayed on active duty until 1953 when he joined the Michigan Air National Guard.

During his 32 years with the Michigan Guard, he served in numerous capacities including first sergeant, base sergeant major and group sergeant major. Then, just as his career was winding down, Cieciek was assigned to State Headquarters as the first senior enlisted advisor for the Michigan Air National Guard—a position that did not come with a job description.

Cieciek rolled up his sleeves. He saw an opportunity to give enlisted airmen a voice that could reach all the way to the top.

As he dug into the regulations and corresponded with the few other states that had a senior enlisted advisor, he developed a job description: Cieciek became the communication link between the enlisted force and commanders at



Cieciek's official photo (left) and a young Cieciek (right) just after his enlistment into the Army Air Corps., on

board a ship headed to the Mid East.

all levels, including the adjutant general.

With his new job description in hand, he visited units around the state and talked with the troops. He listened to their concerns and challenges and recognized their service and accomplishments. Those early informal discussions lead to many improvements in education opportunities and quality of life issues.

Since his retirement, Cieciek has become active with the Masonic Lodge and the Six Pack Gang, a group of retirees primarily from the 191st Mission Support Squadron.

Then in October 2000, the Guard leadership at Selfridge Air National Guard Base called him back. It was the "Year of the Enlisted" and they needed him to christen the new William A. Cieciek Conference Room.

Less than two years later, the Chief Master Sergeant William A. Cieciek Award for Enlisted Excellence was established and on March 9, 2002, during the Michigan Senior Noncommissioned Officer Conference the award was presented for the first time—to Cieciek himself.

Boarswap program improves Air Guard readiness

The 172nd Fighter Squadron, home of the A-10 Warthog, is the winner of the 2001 Adjutant General's Quality Cup Bronze Award.

The 172nd realized that the unit had excess flying hours while several active duty A-10 fighter units were unable to fly the required mission ready sortic rates. Due to over manning, these units were only achieving their ready aircrew program (RAP) goals every other month. Lack

of RAP lessens a unit's combat readiness.

So, the pilots who carried excess flying hours created "boarswap." In short, boarswap permitted active duty and Guard units to work together toward a shared objective—air superiority—while being fiscally responsible. The process allowed the active duty pilots to fly A-10s while in Battle Creek.

In the past year, 35 active duty pilots

have maintained their combat mission ready status. Additionally, home station active duty A-10 pilots were able to fly more sorties and hours, enabling approximately 100 additional pilots to achieve RAP.

Boarswap has also given 172nd instructors the opportunity to maintain proficiency and improve performance by "cross-telling" topics such as tactical techniques, close air support, forward air control and interdiction.

Wolverines: "Let's Rock n' Roll"

With a new commander, 46th Brigade prepares for new homeland defense missions







Spc. Daniel Quaine, Detachment 1, Company C, 1st Battalion, 125th Infantry (top photo) works with a Detroit Metro Airport security checkpoint screener. Maj. Gen. E. Gordon Stump, the Michigan adjutant general, (center) visits with Sgt. Richard Fritz, Headquarters Battery, 1st Battalion, 119th Field Artillery, during a staff visit to the Lansing Capital City Airport. Sgt. Mark Meiners, 1437th Engineer Company, (bottom) and a U.S. Customs agent search a vehicle crossing the International Bridge at Sault Ste. Marie into the United States.

By Sgt. Jonathan Stein

Shortly after September 11, the Michigan Army National Guard's finest went to the airport, not to board a flight, but to demonstrate "Tuebor," a Latin word found on Michigan's state flag meaning, "I will defend." From October 2001 through May 2002, more than 187 Guard soldiers provided security at 17 airports across the state. Just prior to the start of the airport mission, another 54 soldiers were already on duty at three Michigan borders: the Blue Water Bridge in Port Huron, Ambassador Bridge in Detroit and International Bridge in Sault Ste. Marie. Then, in March, after President George W. Bush directed increased security at the nation's borders, another 148 Michigan soldiers were called up to reinforce their efforts.

Soldiers from the 46th "Wolverine" Brigade (46th Infantry Brigade), based in Grand Rapids, played a key part in the two missions. But as the brigade's role in Operation Enduring Freedom draws to a close, they're looking ahead to new changes and challenges.

In January, the 46th Brigade had a change of command ceremony and named Col. William Ewald as the new commander. Ewald has been with the Wolverines since 1997, when he was appointed as the brigade's executive officer.

"The primary training goal of the brigade," Ewald said, "is to ensure that the maximum number of assigned soldiers are available and trained for support of homeland security missions. I see that as the brigade's primary focus until the war on terrorism is won."

The airport security mission ended May 31. At that point, airports began receiving security protection from local law enforcement and federal government employees. However, Ewald said the brigade could anticipate additional missions at selected sites.

"We should expect to see high op tempo (operational intensity) due to the war on terrorism," Ewald said. "So the competencies of individual soldiers, noncommissioned officers and officers will become very important."

If you have worked in the brigade's tactical operation center with Ewald than you've heard him say, "let's rock n' roll" when addressing the staff and the troops.

Ewald says the performance of the soldiers has been "magnificent" and they have shown the public the best face of the Michigan National Guard and the 46th Wolverine Brigade.

"On a daily basis people would thank us for being here," said Sgt. Matthew Send from Battery B, 1st Battalion, 119th Field Artillery, who pulled numerous shifts at the Kalamazoo airport. After the mission was over, Send worked as an instructor with the Michigan National Guard Youth Leadership Camp. Yet, he said he would volunteer for Homeland Security duty again.

What new reponsibilities the Army National Guard may assume in the months ahead is still unknown but, for the time being, the Guard will continue the border mission.

(Editor's note: The border mission is scheduled to end in August.)

127th Wing Converts to Wartime Ops

By Master Sgt. Jack Haus127th Maintenance Squadron Munitions

16s internally mounted guns.

Within minutes after the September 11th terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, the 127th Wing began converting from peacetime to wartime operation.

Anticipating the imminent need for the wing's F-16s to go into combat mode, the munitions section knew what had to be done but faced a major challenge. With half the force en route to, or already in, Saudi Arabia, the few trained technicians on hand were hardly enough to retrieve the munitions components from war reserve materials (WRM) storage, assemble the missiles, load the guns, and transport it to the waiting jets. A second team was needed to make the high explosive incendiary ammunition ready for the F-

Teamwork was called for and the 127th Maintenance Squadron delivered: civilians and airmen from the maintenance and engine shops quickly arrived with transportation and security forces close behind.

After the initial order to break out the WRM, the ammunition and missiles were transported to the missile maintenance facility. There, munitions personnel positioned and opened missile containers and gathered assembly stands, trailers, tools, technical orders and crew books. While other munitions technicians prepared the Ammunition Loading System (ALS)--used when loading 20 mm ammunition--the others pressed on with assembling the missiles.

The result of this teamwork was the safe and accurate preparation and delivery of enough munitions to arm six F-16 fighter jets—all accomplished in less than two hours.

The augmentees returned to their offices and shops only to be recalled a short time later when two jets from the Ohio Air National Guard arrived at the base in need of armament. The team was back in action and filled the "order" in about 40 minutes.





Tech. Sgt. Ray Escott (top) removes a bottle of coolant from the guidance control section of an AIM-9 missile. Staff Sgt. Joe Gehringer watches Senior Airman Chris Vetters as he connects the cable from the test set to the guidance control section of an AIM-9 missile. (Photos by John Swanson, 127th Wing Multimedia Services)

Aircraft Will Continue to "Roll"

By Tech. Sgt. Tim Dougherty Air Force Print News

Aircraft nose art with the words "Let's roll!" -- America's two-word marching order in the fight against terrorism -- will be displayed on aircraft throughout the Air Force as a way of recognizing the heroes and victims of the Sept. 11 attacks on the United States.

The words were made famous by Todd Beamer, one of the passengers on Flight 93 who fought terrorists for control of the flight before in crashed into a field in western Pennsylvania. Beamer was overheard on a cellular phone reciting the Lord's Prayer and then saying, "Let's roll!" as passengers charged the terrorists. Beamer had been on the phone with his wife.



One aircraft from each Air Force active duty, Guard and Reserve unit is authorized to display the "Let's Roll" logo for one year.

News and events from around the state



Photo courtesy Engineer Brigade



Sgt.Ron Raflik



Master Sgt. Dale Atkins

Vernon

When Staff Sgt. Tom Cruce, Engineer Brigade, 38th Infantry Division, was asked by a teacher at his children's school to "motivate" her third graders, he had no idea that within one school year, the students of the Nellie Reed Elementary School, Vernon, Mich., would progress to the level of reporting to the school board (top, left) or presenting a strategic brief to Brig. Gen. Robert V. Taylor, the assistant adjutant general for Army.

"Today Brig. Gen. Taylor came into my class. He said this was the best brief he has seen. When it was my turn, I was nervous. The thing I had to brief was, 'I am Pvt. Zach Kist from platoon one, squad one. I will be going over goals.' The words that I stumbled on were *enhance*, *image* and *continually*." --Zach Kish

"I thought Gen. Taylor was going to be really tall. I liked it when Joran said, 'Room, attention!' The pencil that Gen. Taylor gave us, I will keep and never sharpen. I had my picture taken with Gen. Taylor so I can send it to my uncle, Pvt. Aaron Spaleny. He is in Washington, D.C. with the National Guard protecting the Pentagon." --Hallie Louch

(Pvt. 1st Class Aaron Spaleny is a member of the 144th Military Police Company.)

Lapeer

They make it look so easy--Company A, 146th Forward Support Battalion and Companies C and D, 2nd Battalion, 147th Aviation that is. During a Spring exercise, the units worked together practicing slingload operations. Here a UH-60 Blackhawk (center) whisks away a water buffalo weighing nearly 2,800 pounds.

Port Huron

The 126th Army Band brass section (bottom) performs in a "Patriotic Concert" the evening before the annual National Guard Association of Michigan conference. The event, which also featured the Grand Rapids Voices of Freedom Singers, was free and open to the public.

Grand Ledge

After more than five years of planning, a memorial wall at the Army Aviation Support Facility, Grand Ledge, has been completed. The memorial is the brainchild of 1st Sgt. Pat O'Brien, who wanted to recognize soldiers from the Army Aviation community who have passed away while serving. O'Brien also wanted to honor those from all branches of the Armed Forces. What resulted is a wall that bears 20 names of troops who have died while serving at Grand Ledge and a brick path imprinted with names and messages from families, businesses and individuals honoring service members from all branches. The memorial also includes two helicopters--an AH-1 Cobra and a UH-1 Huey--each mounted on a 15 foot pole.

Bricks to honor service members are still available by calling 517-627-0100. The cost is \$25.

Selfridge

A Memorial Area and Memorial Wall has also been constructed at the Selfridge Military Air Museum. The memorial is designed to honor all members of the military who gave their lives in the line of duty; to recognize those who have or are currently serving their country; and to acknowledge contributions from families and businesses to help preserve freedom. The centerpiece, an elevated F-86 Sabre aircraft, was flown by Michigan Air National Guard units in the mid-1950s. Memorial bricks are available by calling 586-307-6768 or visit www.selfridgeairmuseum.org. The cost is \$75.

Traverse City

Spc. Michelle Rudzitis, 144th Military Police Company, hugs a young athlete (top) participating in the 2002 Winter Special Olympics. Members of the 144th have consistently volunteered to assist with the program for many years. This Summer, while deployed to Washington D.C. (see story on page 20) the 144th helped with the Summer games there.

Okemos/Mt. Clemens

This Spring, two Michigan Army National Guard units honored the memory of Michigan Guardsman Sgt. John O'Brien. O'Brien, who passed away in December 2001 from cancer, had been a member of both Company F, 425th Infantry and the 263rd Personnel Services Detachment. In May, Company F held a memorial ceremony at the unit's new location, Selfridge Air National Guard Base, Mt. Clemens, in honor of O'Brien. During the ceremony, a marker "dedicated to the past, present and future soldiers of Company F, 425 Infantry," was unveiled. O'Brien's mother (center inset) and other family members were in attendance. During that same weekend, the 263rd participated in the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life, a 24 hour event aimed at raising awareness and money for cancer. Sgt. Ed O'Brien, John's brother and a current member of the 263rd, stands behind a banner that was displayed at the Okemos High School track, where the event was held.

Grand Rapids

For the sixth time in three years, Company D, 1st Battalion, 125th Infantry, has manned the phones (bottom) during the WGVU Public Television telethon. This year, the Delta Dragons put out a challenge to the viewing public, "a unit coin to the next five people who call in with a \$100 pledge." Not only did they give away all five coins, they received one recruiting lead. Answering phones, from left to right, are Staff Sgt. Lonnie Pohl, Pvt. Anthony Ingersoll and Pvt. 1st Class Daniel Allen.



Sgt. Ron Raflik



Photo by Lomax LaGrand, 127th Wing Multimedia Services



Photo courtesy Company D, 1st Battalion, 125th Infantry

Summer 2002 • The Wolverine Guard • 11

Anyone who questions the need for U.S. humanitarian aid should ask Maj. Jan Shaw about the Honduran man she treated who had a worm living in his eye.

"A bot fly larva had gotten beneath his eye socket," said Shaw, assistant chief nurse for the Michigan Air Guard's 110th Medical Squadron. "It had even bored a hole through the skin that it was using to get air. We pulled it out with tweezers — it still makes me itch just thinking about it."

Parasites and other third-world health problems are rampant in rural Honduras, where poverty is so severe that people sometimes eat dirt to stave off hunger. But as 32 members of the 110th Medical Squadron learned when they deployed to Honduras on March 12-23, providing care in such an environment can be a life-changing experience for patients and health professionals alike.

"This trip reminded me of why I'm a medic," Shaw said. "The military has an image that we're just here to fight and kill. But in the medical field, you help and heal. I got up at 4 a.m., worked all day without a break, and never felt so good."

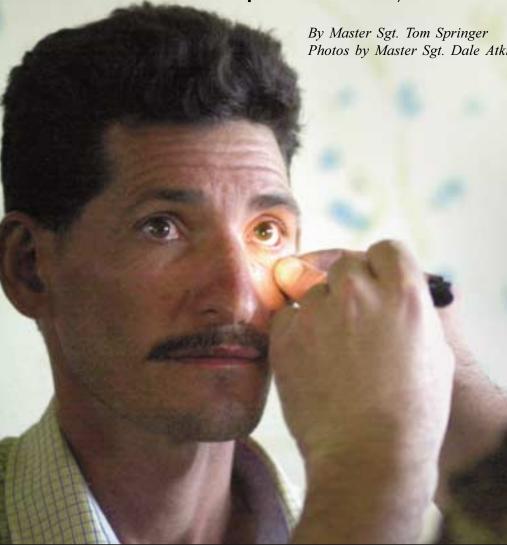
The 110th was stationed at Soto Cano Air Base, a dusty, bare-bones installation that's been home to U.S. forces since the early 1980s. Each morning, with armed U.S Marines guarding their convoy, the medical teams would pile into Humvees and drive several hours on bumpy roads to reach remote mountain villages. Traveling in the group were doctors, dentists, nurses, physician assistants and two optometrists.

The teams usually set up their temporary clinics in a local schoolhouse. Long lines quickly formed, and Honduran families – old people, parents and children – would stand for up to six hours in 90-degree heat to await treatment. For most villagers, these annual visits by the U.S. military provide the only care they receive all year. Overall, the 110th's medical crews treated more than 3,700 patients during their deployment.

Working alongside Honduran doctors and interpreters, they set up triage areas to prioritize treatment.

'This is why I'm a med

Humanitarian mission provides care to 3,700 Hondura



Dentists pulled decayed and abscessed teeth (there wasn't time to fill individual cavities). Doctors and nurses mainly treated skin and ear infections, intestinal parasites and high blood pressure. For more serious diseases, patients were referred to regional hospitals, a trip that can require several days' travel by donkey.

"We got quite an education about tropical diseases and other problems you'd never see in the States," Shaw said. "We saw a lot of machete wounds, because everyone uses machetes to raise crops. And there were plenty of broken bones, because farmers grow coffee beans around sheer cliffs where it's really easy to take a bad fall."

In the Honduran back-country, even over-the-counter products like Tylenol are luxuries. So along with dispensing U.S. government-issue medication, 110th team members supplied local clinics with hundreds of pounds

of donated medical supplies that they'd hospitals and drug companies in Michi

And the goodwill didn't stop with fre bandages. Lt. Col. Mike Vandeever, an collected 5,000 pairs of used eyeglasse sin Lions Club, as well as eye drops an valued at \$10,000. About 1,000 pairs we during the deployment and the rest were

Meanwhile, 110th Chaplain Greg Van another mission of mercy to accomplish pastors the Calvary Reformed Church i Mich., and before the trip, his congrega about \$4,000 worth of school supplies. were donated to three schools and two

"It was incredible to see kids wait qui several hours, just to get pens, pencils Heukelom said. "We felt blessed to be









collected from them. We're spiritual beings, and this mission allowed us to connect spiritually as a unit." e aspirin and Several unit members, many of whom had never before left the United States, said the trip has forever changed optometrist, had s from the Wiscontheir life perspective. At the very least, they better d other supplies appreciate everyday amenities – such as flush toilets – ere distributed that Americans take for granted. re given to charities.

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Heukelom had . Van Heukelom

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such a blessing to

These materials

"By the time you get back to the States," said Master Sgt. Dale Atkins, the 110th's photographer, "you're absolutely thanking God and the stars above that you were born in this country, and that the wheel of fortune didn't drop you someplace else."



Optometrist Lt. Col. Mike Vandeever (center photo) distributed about 1,000 pairs of used eyeglasses collected by the Wisconsin Lions Club. From top to bottom: A Honduran soldier opens the gate, allowing a long line of patients to trickle in. Tech. Sgt. Mike Sobran takes blood for a test that is routine in the U.S. Through an interpreter, a Honduran mother explains her infant's symptoms to Lt. Col. Wayne Kohn. The medical teams unload supplies under the watchful eye of an armed Honduran soldier.

144th and 1776th Military Police deploy to Nation's Capitol

The First to Go



Staff Sgt. Dan Betts guards the Pentagon.

Nobody gets in the Pentagon until they check with the 144th

By Randy ConatWJRT Channel 12 ABC Flint

The physical scars on the Pentagon are beginning to heal. Everyday, some of the vandalism of cowards is replaced with the strength of America.

The 144th Military Police Company from Owosso is part of the Pentagon team.

"Anywhere we go, our company's pretty proud of what they're doing—whether it was in Saudi Arabia or here," said Sgt. Richard Fournier, a member of the 144th and Gulf War veteran. "Of course, here, it's a lot better. It's a real honor to be able to walk up to the Pentagon and do our job."

During the Gulf War, the 144th was activated to serve in Saudi Arabia. And the country has called on this National Guard unit again.

"They have an occupation, they have a family and they also voluntarily choose to serve their state and nation," said Brig. Gen. Robert V. Taylor, the assistant adjutant general for Army. "And it makes you proud."

Part of the duty of the 144th is security; nobody gets into the Pentagon until they check in with the 144th.

"It's a great honor to be here and guarding one of the biggest installations in the country," said Spc. Tom Wright.

I'm protecting your country for your safety

By Randy ConatWJRT Channel 12 ABC Flint

War is no respecter of pregnancy. While Spc. Tom Wright and Sgt. Greg Babcock of the 144th Military Police Company were providing security at the Pentagon, their wives were getting closer to their due dates.

When Kate Wright said goodbye to her husband in March in Owosso, she was eight months pregnant. "I'm very proud of him. It's tough, very tough," she said.

Wright began applying for leave so he could be in the delivery room for his daughter's birth. On April 11th, he flew back to Michigan. The next day, Alexis was born.

"As soon as she was born, the first thing that came out of his mouth was 'I'm protecting your country for your safety," Kate Wright said.

Wright was able to stay long enough to bring his wife and newborn daughter home. But then it was back to the Pentagon, where he patrols the perimeter and checks the ID's of employees and visitors.

"It's a great feeling to be here and it's a great duty," he said. "I have even more dedication to duty now that I have a child."

Back in Auburn Hills, it's tough being a new mom when your husband is 600 miles away, guarding against terrorism.

"He calls me every night and some nights are not good nights," said Kate Wright. "The baby's screaming and that's when he starts to feel real bad. Half of me wants him to be home with me, but I know that he has to be there."

Meanwhile, in Midland County, a similar story is unfolding. Cody Babcock was born April 18th. His dad, Sgt. Greg Babcock, was able to get home just before his birth.

"It's hard to explain," said Babcock, reflecting on the birth of his first child. There were a lot of emotions that I didn't anticipate.

But then duty called and it was back



Father and Guardsman Sgt. Jason Prahl says goodbye in Owosso to his son Austin.

to work with the 144th.

"It's tough everyday, said Amy Babcock. "I think my hardest time is thinking of my husband, feeling how hard it is for him. It's a lot of work, a lot of work."

Both wives say friends and family help them with meals and cleaning. But a colicky baby can make the nights awfully long. Both soldiers call once or twice a day to keep in touch.



The 144th and 1776th Military Police Companies are the first Michigan Army National Guard units to deploy outside the state in support of the war on terrorism. The two units, called up in March, are expected to be deployed for one year.

The 144th, based out of Owosso, Mich., is assigned to the Pentagon were they

provide interior and exterior security.

The 1776th, based out of Taylor, Mich., is serving in three different locations: at the Walter Reed Medical Center in Washington, D.C., and at Fort Meade, Md., they provide access control. At Fort Hamilton, in Brooklyn, N.Y., they provide access control and law and order operations.



Photos from top to bottom, left to right:

Spc. Kristopher Hall (144th) looks through binoculars from his post, which overlooks an unidentified location.

Behind the wheel of a law enforcement vehicle, Sgt. Kevin Hall (144th) patrols the Pentagon exterior.

Thousands of people enter Fort Meade's front gate every day, including military members from every branch, civilian employees, civilian contractors and the occasional curious civilian visitor. Spc. Christopher Miller (1776th) and fellow unit members, check every identification card.

MPs are often asked a wide array of questions about the post. Here, Spc. Matthew Kaufman (1776th) gives a visitor directions to the post exchange.

Both MP units have received high praise from their higher headquarters for their courtesy and professionalism while on the job. And it's no wonder: as an MP from the Maryland National Guard checks a driver's ID, Pvt. 1st Class Patrick Fletcher (1776th) greets the other passenger behind the ears.

> During a Combat Life Saver course, Staff Sgt. David Davis, a combat medic with the 1776th, teaches soldiers stationed at Fort Meade how to insert an IV.

Pvt. 1st Class Timothy Popham waits for shift change at the makeshift motor pool which is actually a parking lot on Fort Meyer adjacent to the Arlington National Cemetery. The 144th is billeted at Fort Meyer and unit members say they witness dozens of funerals at Arlington everyday.

Before they were called-up for duty in Washington D.C., Staff Sgt. Tyrone Redding (1776th) and other Michigan MPs were on duty guarding Michigan borders. Although the 46th Infantry Brigade took over the border mission (see story on page 8), Redding stayed on until his unit was mobilized.













On April 13, 2002, Col. Carol Ann Fausone made history when Maj. Gen. E. Gordon Stump, adjutant general of Michigan, and her husband, James G. Fausone, pinned the stars of a brigadier general on her shoulders. She is the first woman in the Michigan National Guard to achieve the rank of general.

Fausone is the assistant for mobilization and reserve affairs and works directly with the deputy assistant secretary of defense for health affairs, force protection and readiness to develop and implement the policies, programs and operations for Reserve affairs.

Fausone is humble about the promotion. She is not entirely sure how she feels about being a history maker. However, she is certain that the stars on her shoulder are there because of years of effort.

"It took a lot of hard work to earn this promotion," Fausone said, "but it was not me alone. It took teamwork and other people's help over the years."

She brought home this point when she stepped from the podium at her pinning, removed her jacket and asked her parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Babyak, to place the stars on her uniform blouse. Fausone said her Air

First Michigan woman promoted to brigadier general

By Senior Master Sgt. John Loser Air Guard Public Affairs Officer

Guard success came because of the support from family and friends and from co-workers and supervisors in her civilian job. As a civilian, Fausone is the director of nursing for St. Mary Mercy Hospital in Livonia.

Fausone also credits her military superiors for her success. "Others took a chance on me and gave me opportunities to prove myself," she said.

Fausone is only the 10th woman in the Air National Guard to become a brigadier general. Her rise to this height started when she accepted a commission and joined the Air Force as a nurse in 1977. She served at Fairchild Air Force Base, Wash., as a clinical staff nurse, nursing service coordinator and a nursing education director. She aimed personally and professionally to be the best she could be in her career and to help others achieve their maximum through a well-planned and executed training program.

When her active duty service ended in 1981, Fausone joined the Michigan Air National Guard and was assigned to Selfridge Air National Guard Base. There, she served in many capacities including clinic nurse, education coordinator, medical readiness officer, nurse executive and vice-commander of the medical unit. Fausone earned the Air Force Senior Nurse Badge, was honored with the Medical Readiness Officer of the Year Award in 1989 and received the 191st Airlift Group Commander's Trophy in 1994.

Fausone transferred to the 110th Medical Squadron, Battle Creek Air National Guard Base in 1995 and was assigned as unit commander. During her tenure as medical squadron commander, Fausone led her unit to achieve the rating of "excellent" during the Quality Air Force Assessment in October 1996 and during a Health Service Inspection in October 1997

"I had a good group of people in the medical squadron," Fausone said. "I simply gave them direction, we worked the issues and they made it all happen. These ratings are their reward for hard work." As a testimony to her leadership, The National Guard Association of Michigan presented Fausone and her unit with the Major General John A. Johnston Award for Excellence in 1995.

Fausone left the 110th Medical Squadron in 1998 to become the assistant to the Air Combat Command Nurse at Langley Air Force Base, Va., where she served as a liaison between the Air National Guard and the Air Combat Command. She provided guidance for medical training, policies and programs. She assumed her current position on April 1, 2001.

There will be more woman generals in Michigan's future. Some will be in the Army Guard and some in the Air Guard. But, as historians and Guard members look back to 2002, Brig. Gen. Carol Ann Fausone will always be known as the woman that led the way.

Hail to the Chiefs

In a high-tech military, warrant officers are more important than ever

By Master Sgt. Tom Springer State Public Affairs Office

Here's a comment that Chief Warrant Officer Five Rhea Pruett has heard more times than she cares to remember:

"What do I want to become a warrant officer for? If I'm going to go through the hassle and training of getting a commission, I might as well become a *real* officer."

It's a good question, but from Pruett's standpoint it shows a lack of awareness of what warrant officers do, and how they do it. And as the Michigan Army National Guard's new command chief warrant officer (the nation's first woman to hold that title) it's her job to help change those perceptions.

"I ask soldiers, 'What are your leadership goals?" Pruett said. "If you want to be a commander, then become a commissioned officer. But if you want to be a highly specialized technical expert, who is still a leader but also advises commanders, then consider being a warrant officer."

As Pruett explains, what many enlisted soldiers enjoy most about the Army is the chance to learn and practice technical skills, such as flying or fixing helicopters, programming



computers, or working on vehicles. Some soldiers assume that if they become officers, they'll continue to do the hands-on "fun stuff" — except at a higher rank and pay grade. That's rarely the case.

"A commissioned officer can't really be a technical specialist, because there's so much turn over between platoon leaders, company commanders, and staff officers," Pruett said. "But warrant officers stay in one place, so they have time to focus and specialize. It's the warrant's job to provide institutional knowledge, and be the technical resource that allows commanders to focus on training, readiness and mobilization."

In terms of pay, warrants generally receive less than mid-range commissioned officers, but more than senior NCOs. For example, a chief warrant three with 12 years of service earns \$458 per four-drill weekend, while a captain with 12 years of service receives \$592, and a sergeant first class \$363.

The rank of warrant officer originated with the British Navy two centuries before Columbus sailed to America. At the time, naval officers were men of royal blood who were appointed to the ranks of captain and lieutenant. Since most noblemen knew more about fox hunting than running a ship, they relied on senior sailors for technical skills such as navigation and gunnery. These top sailors became indispensable, and although not members of elite society, were awarded the special designation of royal warrant.

The U.S. Army established its warrant officer corps in 1918, when it created the Army Mine Planter Service. The first warrants served in the Coastal Artillery Corps, aboard vessels that laid and maintained minefields near American harbors.

In today's Army, there are two categories of warrant officers: aviation and technical. Chief Warrant Two Allen Robinson, a helicopter pilot with (CONTINUED ON PAGE 21)

Are you ready to become a warrant officer?

If you want to become a warrant officer, now is a good time apply. The Michigan Army Guard is authorized 215 warrant officer positions, but only 163 of these are filled. Openings are available in the fields of maintenance, logistics, personnel and aviation.

To be eligible for warrant officer school, you must be a sergeant (or above) with a GT score of at least 110, who has completed phase two of the Basic Noncommissioned Officer Course and meets the Army's weight and fitness

standards. (Although soldiers with lower GT scores often retake the test and score higher without too much difficulty.) The four-week WOCs course is in held in Fort Rucker, Ala.

And if you don't currently meet these criteria? Soldiers E-4 and above are encouraged to begin their application packets and begin working toward admission. For information, contact Chief Warrant Officer Five Rhea Pruett at (517) 702-5131 or rhea.pruett@mi.ngb.army.mil.

USPFO Family Provides Service

By Ms. Terri Michaelson USPFO, Internal Review

The United States Property and Fiscal Office has a long and proud history of service. But if you've never had a reason to visit the small, brick building on Lansing's west side, you may not realize all that they do.

The USPFO is composed of six divisions: Administration, Comptroller, Data Processing, Internal Review, Purchasing and Contracting and Supply and Services.

The small, dedicated team within the Administrative Division are the first faces you see when you sign in at the front door. They take care of office duties and act as a liaison for human resource issues

The Comptroller Division controls and accounts for all the federal money that the Michigan Army and Air National Guard receives. They also control the government travel credit card program for Michigan Guard soldiers and technicians. The payroll section processes military (Army Guard) and technician pay and reimburses Army Guard and technician travel. The fiscal section does the number crunching and makes sure the money is recorded into the correct accounts.

The Data Processing Division manages and maintains the computer programs and hardware used by USPFO staff. They also provide AFCOS and SIDPERS support to Michigan Army Guard units, MILPO and POTO.

The Internal Review Division provides audit and consulting services to Air and Army Guard units throughout the state. They focus on cost savings, streamlining procedures and clear internal controls that lead to a high quality operation. In 1999, and again in 2001, this division received the National Guard Bureau's Four Star Award.

The Purchasing and Contracting Division procures the design and construction of Michigan Guard facilities and armories. They also manage the VISA purchase credit card program which has become the primary procedure for the purchase of office supplies.

The Supply and Services Division receives, stores, delivers and accounts for all soldier items. They also coordinate the movement of equipment and troops to anywhere in the world





Staff Sgt. Tim Imes (top) stacks crated federal property to be transferred to the Defense Reutilization Marketing Office. Master Sgt. Alan Taber and Sgt. Neal Hanchett check the stock numbers of repair parts. (Photos by Master Sgt. Dale Atkins)

and arrange airline tickets and rental cars for military travel.

Several years ago, the USPFO began a partnership with Lansing's Harley Franks Elementary School and beginning next year, Walnut Street Elementary School. Volunteers participated in the school's Walk for Fitness program and National Reading Month. Students and teachers alike enjoy the interaction, especially when uniformed soldiers participate.

The USPFO Adopt-a-Family program, which has been around for approximately 17 years, has gained momentum over the years. Fundraisers such as cookbook sales, silent auctions and special luncheons all raise money for the program. This allows the USPFO to provide "Christmas" for two or three Lansing area families, which includes a turkey dinner with all the trimmings and presents for every family member.

When a warehouse employee was off work with a serious illness, the USPFO held a benefit breakfast and raised more than \$500 to help his family. They also donated blood needed for his recovery. Another long time employee needed some help

fixing things up at home. A group of workers showed up one evening armed with paint, tools and cleaning supplies. Several staff members have suffered through cancer, family deaths and other tragedies, and each time, the USPFO family was there to help.

"We may not get together after hours much, but when one of us is in need, everyone is there to help," said Carol Colville of Internal Review. 171st Airlift Squadron Lands at Normandy

By Capt. George DiMichele 127th Wing

It was 58 years ago that the United States and its Allies fought their way ashore at Normandy, France, in one of the greatest land battles of World War II

Today, D-Day is commemorated as the beginning of the end for Hitler and the first stop in the liberation of Western Europe from Nazi tyranny. For those that lived it, June 6 continues to occupy a special place in their hearts. It was a time and place when ordinary Americans were called upon to do something extraordinary.

In 2002, June 6th was observed with an international ceremony that recognized the battle and honored those who didn't survive. Officially

"The more we train together, the better we'll fight together if we're ever called on again."

Lt. Col. Roger Molnar

titled "Operation Normandy 2002," it commemorated one of the most significant militarily events of the past thousand years. For this reason, it was a special honor for the Michigan Air National Guard's 171st Airlift Squadron to participate.

During the week, the 171st—the only Air National Guard unit chosen to participate—performed numerous airdrops of U.S., British, Canadian and French paratroopers into Normandy.

Additionally, the crew participated in graveside and beach landing-area ceremonies commemorating the multiservice and joint nature of the invasion force.

Since Sept. 11, the 171st has been deployed for Operation Joint Forge to help keep peace in the former Yugoslavia; deployed to Puerto Rico to support Operation Enduring Freedom with flights into Guantanamo Bay, Cuba; and to Kadena Air Base, Japan, to support other war on terrorism efforts.

On June 6, 2002, the nation once again sent her best people.

"I've had many occasions to be proud of this squadron but this one is certainly up at the top," said Col. Dick Elliott, the Airlift Group commander. "Being selected to represent the state and nation at Normandy underscores why this unit is one of the best."

Although the events were ceremonial, working with the French proved beneficial.

"The more we train together, the better we'll fight together if we're ever called on again," said Lt. Col. Roger Molnar, 171st Airlift Squadron commander. "As the unit's personnel interface with local French officials and citizens, it underscores the close bond that continues between the United States and France as allies."

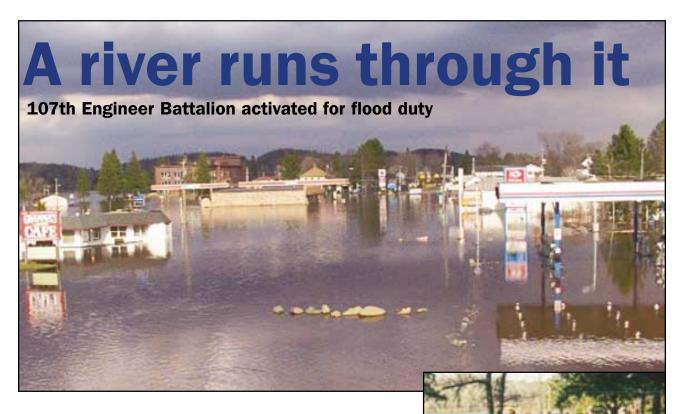
"I will never forget representing the nation and the Air National Guard," said Master
Sgt. Mike Gay,
an airlift squadron loadmaster. "I
think it reminds our
European allies about
our commitment to and
partnership with
Europe."

"Clearly, by risking the

lives of our people, then and now, we should leave no doubt in the minds of the citizens of the European community how strongly committed we are to security and peace in the world," said Lt. Col. Tom Takai the airlift group's deputy commander for operations.

With America again at war, military events and history are on the public's radar screen.

"The D-Day Normandy Landing has been immortalized in films such as *The Longest Day*," said Lt. Col. John Theisen, 191st Aircraft Generation Squadron commander. "With the recent success of other military historical films, such as *Pearl Harbor*, *U-571*, and the HBO series *Band of Brothers*, coupled with the events of September 11th, military history is a popular topic."



By Capt. Dawn Dancer

It was a Tuesday, unseasonably warm for April in Michigan's Upper Peninsula--temperatures reached an unheard of 92-degrees.

As the work day ended, Staff Sgt. Dale Allen's size 11 combat boots marched to the Armory parking lot, through gathering water puddles left behind by the rapidly melting snow.

The amount of snowfall, that winter, had been extraordinary and although Allen was an avid cold-weather winter sportsman, he wasn't sorry to see the snow piles shrink. He looked forward to green grass.

That evening Allen watched curiously as the snow continued to rapidly melt. Then, just before 9 p.m., the phone rang. The Montreal River was rising and Allen's hometown of Ironwood was flooding. The governor declared a state of disaster and activated the National Guard.

Allen immediately alerted 20 local soldiers and most reported for duty within the hour. They worked through the night trying to contain the flood.

The next morning, soldiers from units in Baraga and Iron River were sent to relieve the Ironwood crew but

with so many flooded roads, they had to drive through Rhinelander, Wisc. to reach Ironwood. In Rhinelander, severe weather had spawned a tornado just west of the city and left as much as three inches of rain in one hour.

When the replacement crews arrived, the exhausted Ironwood soldiers briefed them on the situation but quickly learned the focus had changed. Twelve miles down the road, the city of Wakefield was taking on heavy water damage and flooding. The engineers were told to report to the emergency operations center. There, they were partnered with local city workers and volunteers trying to save downtown businesses and power plants. Other soldiers helped state police guard roadways and reroute traffic.

The water was moving quickly and several Wakefield dams swelled past capacity. Sandbagging efforts proved useless. A new strategy was need. An abandoned mine pit on the city's south side might be the answer. The

Guardsmen and civilians work together to save a road near Sunday Lake. (Photos courtesy 107th Engineer Battalion)

water could be funneled there via a relief trench.

As the plan started to take shape, the water slowly began to recede. As it seeped deep into the earth, \$11 million worth of damage was uncovered.

Guardsmen remained on duty, this time responding to urgent repairs such as repairing the bridge approach that connects Ironwood with Hurley, Wis.

According to Allen, the entire community pulled together. "There was a lot of camaraderie out there," he said. It was a good feeling."

He then reflected on the Guard's role and responded simply, "That's how we make our money. It's our job."

Operation Yama Sakura

177th Military Police Brigade trains in Japan

In the days, weeks and months following the Sept. 11 attacks, Michigan's military police were on many radar screens. They were initially called up for the bridge and Bioport security missions while details about a possible deployment outside the state (see page 14) got clearer. But, even among the flurry, the MPs stayed on track with their preplaned activities including support at the Winter Special Olympics (see page 11) and a bilateral training exercise conducted simultaneously at Fort Lewis, Wash. and in Sendai Prefecturem, Honshu, Japan.

The exercise included more than 1,500 active duty, Guard and Reserve

personnel representing 32 states and was the largest scheduled operation ever held in Honshu.

The scenario started with an attack on Japan. U.S. Armed Forces quickly moved in to assist the Japanese military. While teams at Fort Lewis coordinated support from an ocean away, the teams in Japan tackled language barriers and operated on terrain not owned by or leased to the United States.

In addition to an intense learning opportunity for the two nations, for the first time in history, a commanding U.S. MP general and a commanding Japanese MP general met on Japanese soil and worked together. The U.S. general, Brig. Gen. Mitchell LeClaire,



Michigan MPs training with Japanese MPs include, from left to right, Maj. Theresa Brown, Maj. Eric Williams, Spc. Kimberly Lepper, Maj. Rance Williams and Staff Sgt. Lee Arnold.

commander of Michigan's 177th Military Police Brigade, also briefed the Japanese military staff on the MP structure in the U.S.

Chiefs CONTINUED FROM PAGE 17

Company D, 2nd Battalion, 147th Aviation Regiment, is in the first category. Robinson began his Guard career as a light wheeled vehicle mechanic.

"I was just starting a family, and building a house, and didn't think I was ready for the 12-16 months of warrant officer school and flight school," Robinson recalled. But at the Grand Ledge aviation facility, warrant officers "who make the recruiting rounds" convinced Robinson otherwise.

In aviation, Robinson said he doesn't see a distinct difference between commissioned officers and warrants. However, warrants do generally get more flying time and are saddled with fewer command duties.

As proof that warrant officers are technical experts, consider Warrant Officer One Lora Lingeman's job title: combat service support automation management officer. In English, that means she manages the state's military supply computer system. Lingeman is also the frontline "help desk" whom frustrated supply sergeants call when their software doesn't work.

Lingeman clearly fits Chief Rhea Pruett's definition of a warrant as a soldier "whose been on the line, came from the ranks, and knows what they're talking about." Before she received her commission, Lingeman was a staff sergeant and Gulf War veteran with more than 18 years of service – three on active duty in Germany.

Since returning home from warrant officer school in November 2001, Lingeman said she's been more effective in her position. "What I say now carries a little more weight. When somebody sees my name on message traffic, it's a warrant that's talking."

Lingeman, who hopes to spend 15 more years in the Guard, became a warrant partly because she didn't want to "chase rank" the way commissioned officers have to do. "As a warrant, you're supposed to be a fixture in one position," she said. "In my slot, I can go to CW-4 before I have to move."

As for potential warrant officer candidates who are still undecided, Lingeman offers this advice:

"Don't let the stories you hear about warrant officer school scare you. It's a huge feeling of accomplishment when you make it through something tough and they pin those bars on you.

"Now, I suddenly have people asking me 'Hey, Chief, what do you think?' It's like I went away as me and came back as someone else."

News from the Comptroller

Basic allowance for subsistence changes during Camp Grayling annual training:

- •BAS entitlement officers: \$83.18 for 15 days.
- •BAS entitlement enlisted: \$120.80 for 15 days.
- •All soldiers will then incur a meal collection of \$91.11, whether a meal is consumed or not.

New Bank of America POC

A new point of contact for the Bank of American government credit card is Chief Warrant Officer Tony Husch at 517-483-5787 or Maj. Klem Caron at 517-483-5782. The previous POC, Debbie Doss, has moved to a new job within the Michigan Guard.

Michigan Army and Air National Guard Promotions

Bainbridge, Jeremy

Brownell, Randy R.

Cook, Christopher

Elsey, Derek M.

Haire, Hart S. III

Jones, Heath A.

Ireland, Charles L.

Jonkman, Benjamin

Metzger, Jeremy A.

Parrott, Marcia R.

Roberts, Andres J.

Rudolph, Vanessa R.

Shoopman, Delbert

Airman 1st Class

Christian, Alonzo E.

Morrish, Benjamin

Scharrer, Jennifer E.

Spiech, Bradley A.

Vanrhee, Paul L.

Vest, Diana S.

Wells, Michael

Hatala, Carl E.

Potter, Jacob L.

Salis, Charles

Erard, Jason

Corrado, Chandra A.

From Feb. 1 through May 30, 2002

Air Guard

Brig. Gen. Fausone, Carol Ann Col. Allen, Thomas E. Lt. Col. Berrodin, Thomas Furland, Donald A. Griffin, Anthony J. Kasbow, Richard T. Kennedy, David T. Senko, Frank S Maj. Earl, Mark A.

Holmes, Kristine N. Niedergall, Alice A. Nicholson, Alfred Whipple, Daniel J. Capt.

Apsey, Andrew A. Wright, David J. Barlow, Daniel N. Davis, Brian K. Peterson, Parker C. 1st Lt. Holtz, Brain D. Longlois, Charles R. Whitney, Steven L.

Wright, David J. Chief Master Sgt. Gardner, Blake H. Majestic, Michael S. Wyrzykowski, James

Senior Master Sgt. Chappus, Donald J. Cooper, Brain E. Ewalt, Charles W. Grieve, Kenneth E. Morton, Carolyn Smith, Donald H. Master Sgt. Alexander, Jeffrey Bennett, William Buursma, John L. Declouette,

Foss, Darren L. Griffith, David D. Hartley, Adam D. Kolar, Kevin C. McCord, Norman McCoy, Edwin J. Muczynski-Buursma, Alyce

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true feelings about his dad's year-long deployment to Washington D.C. Read about military life and the impact on the family in the next issue of "The Wolverine Guard." (Photo by Sgt. Ron Raflik)

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